

A true
declaration of the
troublesome voy-
adge of **M. John Hau-**
kins to the parties of
Guynea and the west
Indies, in the yea-
res of our Lord
1567. and
1568.

Imprinted at
Londó in Poules Church-
parde, by Thomas Burfo-
te for Lucas Harrison,
dwelling at the sig-
ne of the Crane.

Anno. 1569.

¶ Here followeth a note or
Declaration of the trouble=
some voyage, made with the Je=
sus, the Maynion & foure other ship=
pes to the parties of Guynea &
the weste Indies in the years
1567. and 1568. by
John Haukins.

The shippes departed fro
Plymouth the ij. day of *October.*
October. Anno 1567. and
had reasonable wether
vntill the 7. daie, at which tyme 40.
leagues northe from cape Finester
there arose an extreame storme *A storme.*
which continued 4. daies, in such sor=
te that þe fleet was disperſed & all
oure great botes losse, & the Jesus
oure chieffe shippe in suche case as
not thought able to serue þe viage,
wher vpon in the same storme we
sett our course homewarde, deter=
mining to geue ouer þe viadge: but
þe ij. daie of the same moneth þe win=
de chaūged wth faire wether, wher=
by

A.ij.

M. Iohn Haukins

by we were animated to followe
our enterpryse, & so did, directinge
oure course with the Ilandes of
grand Canaries, where according
to an order before prescribed, all
our shippes before dispersed, met
in one of those Ilandes called Go-
Gomera. mera where we toke water & de-
parted from thence the .iiii. daye of
Novēber Nouember towardses the coaste of
Gynnea & arrived at Cape Verde
the .xviii. of Nouember, where we
landed 150 men hoping to obtaine
some Negroes, where we gatt but
fewe, and those with great hurte &
damage to our men, which cheife-
lye proceeded of their enuēnyed
*Enuēni-
med ar-
rowes.* arrowes: and althoughe in the be-
ginning it seemed to bee but small
hurttes, yet there hardlye escaped
anye that had bloude drayne of
them, and dyed in strange sorte
with there mouthes shutt some .x.
dayes before he died, & after there
woundes

last voyadge.

2

woundes were hole : where I my
selfe had one of the greatest wound-
des, yet thanks be to god escaped.
From thence we past the tyme by *December.*
pon the coast of Guinea searching
with all diligence the riuers from
the graunde vnto the Searlona
till the .xii. of Januarie in whiche *Ianuaris.*
time we had not gotten together
150 Negroes: yet notwithstanding
the sickenes of oure men, and the
late time of the yeare commaun-
ded vs awaye, and thus hauinge
nothinge wherof to seke the coast
of the West Indias, was with the
rest of oure companie in consulta-
cion to go to the coast of the Mine
hopinge there to haue obtained
some gold for our wares and ther-
by to haue defended oure charge.
But euen in that presente instante
there came to vs a Negro sente
from a kynge oppressed of o-
ther kynges bys neyghbours
A.iii. Decis

M. Iohn Haukins

desiring our aide, with promise p
as many negrose as by these wars
might be obtayned aswell of his
part as of ours sholde be at our
pleasure wherupon we concluded
to geue ayde, & sent 120. of our men
which p 15. of Januarie assaulted a
town of p negrose of our Aipes ad-
uersaries which had in it 8000. in-
habitants & verie strögly impaled
& fenced after ther maner, but we-
re so well defended that oure men
preuailed not but losse vi. men and
xl. hurt: so p oure men sent fourth
with to me for more help, wherbpö
cösidering that the good successe of
this interpris might highly furder,
the comoditie of sure viondge, I
wēt my self & with p help of p king
of our side assaulted p towne bothe
by land & sea and verie hardly with
fyre (their houses beinge couered
with drie palme leues) obtayned p
town, & put the inhabitāts to flight
where

A towne
of 8000.
Negrose
taken.

last voyadge.

where we toke 250. persones men
women & childre and by our frende
the king of oure side there was ta-
ken 600. prisoners wheteof we ho-
ped to haue had our choyle: but the
Negro (in which naciō is seldome *No troth*
or neuer found troth) ment nothing *in Ne-*
lesse, for that night he remoued his *grose.*
camp & prisoners, so that we were
fayne to content vs with those few
which we had gotten oure selues.

¶ Now had we obtayned betwe-
ne 4 & 500. Negrose, wherwith we
thought it somewhat reasoable to
seke the coast of the West Indians,
and there, for our Negrose & other
our Marchaūdies we hoped to ob-
taine wherof to conteruaile oure
charges with soe gaines, wherby
to we proceeded with al diligence,
fornished our waterig, toke fuel, &
departed the coast of Guynea, the
iii. of febzuarie continuing at the *Februari*
sea with a passag more harder the
A. iiii. be.

M. Iohn Haukins

before hathe bene accustomed, till
p. xxvii. day of March, which day
Marche. we had sighte of an Ilande called
Dominica vppon the coaste of the
Dominica. West Indies in. xliii. degrees: from
thence wee coasted from place to
place making oure traffique with
the Spanyardes as wee myght,
somewhat hardelye, because the
kinge had straightly commaunded
all his gouernours in those partes
by no meanes to suffer anye trade
to be made with vs: notwithstanding
we had reasonable trade and
Aprill. courteous intertainement from
the Ile of Margarita vnto Cattage-
Maye. na withoute anye thinge great-
ly woorth the notynge, sauinge at
Capo Delauela in a towne called
Rio de la Hache from whence co-
mes all the pearles, the treasurer
who had the charge there, woulde
by no meanes agre to anye trade,
or to suffer vs to take water, he
had

3
last voyadge.

had fortifyed hys towne wyth
dyuers bulwarkes in all places
where it might be entred, and fur-
nished hymselfe wyth a 100 Har-
gebusiers, so that he thoughte by
famine to haue infozced vs to haue
put a lande our Negrose: of which
purpose he had not greatlye failed
vnlesse we had by force entred the

June.

towne: whiche (after we coulde by
no meanes obtaine his fauour) we
were infozced to dooe, and so with

*Rio de la
Hachsa-
ken.*

200 men brake in vppon there
bulwarkes, and entred the towne
with the losse onelye of .ii. men of
our parts, and no hurt done to the
Spanyardes because after there
boley of shotte discharged, they all
fled.

¶ Thus hauing the town w some
circumstance, partly by the Spani-
ardes desite of Negrose, & partly
by frendship of y treasurer, we ob-
tained a secrete trade: wher vppon

A. v.

the

M. Iohn Haukins

the Spanyardes resorted to vs by
night, and bought of vs to the nō-
ber of CC. Negroes, in all other
places where we traded the Spai-
niards inhabitants were glad of
vs and traded willingly.

Cartage-
na.

¶ At Cartagena the last towne
we thought to haue sene in y^e coast
we coulde by no meanes obtayne
to come with any Spanyarde the
gouernout was so straight, & be-
cause our trade was so neare fini-
shed we thought not good eyther
to aduenture any landinge, or to
detract further tyme, but in peace
departed from thence the. xliii. of
July, hoping to haue escaped the
tyme of ther stormes which the so-
ne after begā to raigne, the which
they call Furicanos, but passing by
the west ende of Cuba, towarde
the coaste of Floryda there happe-
ned to vs the xij. day of August an
extreme storme which continued
by the

Indie.

Furica-
nos.

last voyadge.

by þ space of iiii. dais, which so bet
the Jesus, that we cutt downe all
hyr higher buildings, her ruddar
also was soze shaken, and with all
was in sq extreame a leacke that
we were rather vppon the poynte
to leue her then to kepe hyr anye
longer, yet hopinge to bringe all
to good passe soughte the coaste of
Flozypda where we found no place
noz Hauen for oure shippes becau-
se of þ shalonneste of the coast: thus
beinge in greater dispaire, and ta-
ken with a newe stozme whiche
contynued other iij. dayes were *Storme.*
inforced to take for oure succour
the Porte which serueth the Citie
of Mexico called Saint Ion de ly
whiche standeth in xix. degrees, in
seekinge of whiche Porte we toke
in oure waye. iij. shippes whiche
carried passingers to the nomber
of C. whiche passingers we hoped
should be a meane to vs the better
to

M. Iohn Haukins

Septeber.
Saint Ion
de lue.
A porte.

The Spa-
niards
deceaved

to obtayne vittualles for oure mo-
ney, and a quiet place for the repa-
ringe of oure fleete: Shortly after
this the xvi. of September we en-
tered the Porte of Sainte Ion de
lue, and in our entrie the Spaine
yardes thincking vs to be the fleet
of Spaine, y^e chiefe officers of the
cōtry came aboard vs, which being
deceaved of their expectacion we-
re greatlye dismayed: but imme-
diate when they sawe oure de-
maunde was nothinge but vic-
tualles were recomforted. I found
also in the same Porte xij. shippes
whiche had in them by reporte.
200000 £. in golde and sil-
uer, all whiche (beinge in my po-
session, with the Kinges Ilande
as also the Passengers befoze in
my waye thitherwarde stayde) I
sett at libertye, withoute the ta-
king from thē the waight of a gro-
te, onely because I woulde not be
dece

last voyadge.

4
delated of my dispatche: I stayed six
men of estimation and sente poste
immediatly to Mexico, which was
200. miles from vs, to the Presidents
and Counsels there, shewinge
them of our arriual there
by the force of wether, & the neces-
sitie of the repayre of our shippes
and victualls, which wants we re-
quired as frends to Kinge Phillippe
to be furnished of for our money: *Our re-
questes.*
and that y Presidentes and Coun-
sell there shoulde with all conue-
nient speede take order, that at the
arriual of the Spainishe flete,
whiche was daile loked for, there
might no cause of quarrell rise be-
twene vs and them, but for the
better mayntenance of amitie, their
commaundement mighte be had
in that behalfe, this message being
sent awaye the. xvj. daye of Sep-
tember at nighte, beinge the very
daye of our arriual, in the nexte
mo^o.

M. Iohn Haukins.

*The flete
of Spaine*

morninge whiche was the. xviij.
daye of the same moneth, we sawe
open of the Hauen xiiij. great ship-
pes and vnderstandinge them to
be the flete of Spaine, I sente
immediatlye to aduertise the gene-
rall of the flete of my bringe ther,
doyinge him to vnderstande, that
befoze I woulde suffer them to en-
ter the Pozte ther mighte some or-
der of condicions passe betwene vs
for oure safe bringe there, & main-
tenaunce of peace: nowe it is to be
vnderstande that this Pozte is a
lytell Iland of stones not thre foo-
te aboue the water in the hyest
place, & but a bowe shote of length
anye waye, this Ilande standethe
from the mayne landes. ii. bowe
shots or more, also it is to bee vn-
derstode that there is not in all
this coaste anye other place for
shippes to arriue in safety, because
the Nozthe winde hath there suche
vio-

*The ma-
ner of the
Porte S.
Jon de
lewe.*

last voyadge.

violence that vnles the shippes be
berye safely moored with there an-
cres fastned vppon this Islande,
there is no remedie for these Nor-
the winds but death: also the pla-
ce of the Hauen was so lytell that
of necessitie the shippes muste ryde
one aborde the other, so that we
coude not geue place to them nor
they to vs: and here I began to be-
wyle y^e whiche after followed, for
nowe sayd I, I am in two dangers
and forced to receaue the one of
thē. That was, eyther I must haue
kepte oute the flete from entringe
the Poynte the whiche with Gods
healpe I was berye well able to
doe, or els suffer them to enter in
with theire accustomed treason
whiche they neuer fayle to execute
whete they maye haue oportunitie,
or circumuēt it by any meanes,
if I had kepte them oute, then had
there bene present shipwarke of all
the

*Northe
winds pe-
rillous.*

M. Iohn Haukins

the fleet which amounted in value to six Millions which was in value of our money 18000000*l.*
1800. which I considered I was not able
thousand
pounds.

to answer, fearinge the Quenes
Majesties indignaciō in so waigh-
tie a matter. Thus with my self re-
uoluinge the doubt, thought ra-
ther better to abyde the Iutt of the
uncerteintie, the y^e certeintie. The
uncertaine doubt I accompt was
their treasure which by good poli-
cy I hoped might be preuēted, and
therfore as chusinge the least mis-
chise I proceeded to condicions.
Now was our firste messenger co-
me and returned from the fleet
with repozte of y^e arriuall of a vice
Roy, so that he had auctoritie, both
in all this Province of Mexico (o-
therwise called noua Hispania) &
in the sea, who sente vs worde that
we shoulde sende our condicions,
which of his parte shoulde for the
bet.

A vice
Roya.

5
last voyadge.

better maintenance of amitie be-
twene þe Princes, be both fauorably
graunted, & faithfullye performed,
with many faire woordes how pas-
singe þe coaste of the Indies he had
vnderstod of our honest behauiour *Fayre*
towards the inhabitants wher we *woordes*
had to do aswell as in þe same Por- *begylded*
te, the which I lett passe, thus follo-
winge our demaunde we required
victuall for our money, & licence to
sell as muche ware as mighte for-
nische oure wantes, and that there
might be of eyther parte. xij. gen-
tlemen as hostages for the main-
tenance of peace and that the Island *Oure re-*
for oure better safetie mighte be *questes.*
in oure owne possession, duringe
oure abode there, and suche or-
dinance as was planted in the sa-
me Islande whiche was eleuen pe-
ces of Brasle, and that no Spayne-
yarde mighte lande in the Islande
with anye kinde of wepon; these
B. j. condi.

M. Iohn Haukins

The peace concluded.

condicions at the firste, he some what misliked, chieslye the garde of the Island to be in our owne keeping, whiche if they had, had wee had sone knowe our fare: for with the firste Northe winde they had cutt oure cables and oure shippes had gone ashore: but in the ende he concluded to our request, bringing the xij. hostages to x. whiche with all speede of eyther parte were released, with a writinge from the vice Roie signed with his hande and sealed with his seale of all the condicions concluded, & fourth with a trumpet blowne with commaundement that none of eyther parte shoulde be meane to inuolate the peace vppon payne of death: & further it was concluded that the two generals of the fleets shoulde mete and geue faith eache to other for the performace of the promises which was so done. Thus at p end
ol

last voyadge.

of iij. dayes all was concluded and
the flecte entride the Port, saluting
one another as the manner of the
sea doth require. This as I saide
befoze thursdage we entered þ port
te, frydage we sawe the flecte, & on
mondaie at nighte they entred the
Porte, then we laboured ij. dayes
placing the English Shippes by the *Treson.*
selues and the Spanish Shippes by
them selues, the captaines of eache
parte & inferiour men of there par-
tes promissing greate amptie of all
sides, which even as with all fide-
litie was ment of our part þ spain-
yarden ment nothing lesse of their
partes, but from the mayne lande
had fornisshed them selues with a
supplie of men to the nôber of. 1000
and ment the next thursdage being
þ xxij. of September at dinner ty-
me to set vppon vs of all sydes, the
same thursdage in the morning the
treason beinge at hande, some ap-
perance

B. ij.

M. John Haukins

perance shewed, as shifting of weapons from shippe to shippe, plantinge and bending of ordinance from the shippe to the Island where our men were, passing to and fro of company of men more then required for their necessarye busynes, & manye other yll liklyhodes which caused vs to haue a behimēt suspicion, and there withall sent to y^e vice Roy to enquire what was met by it, which sent immediatly straight commaundement to vnplante all things suspicious, & also sent worde that he in y^e faith of a vice Roy would be our defence from all villayns. Yet we beinge not satisfied with this answer because we suspected a gret number of men to be hid in a great ship of 900 tonnes which was moored next vnto the Minion sente againe to the vice Roye y^e master of the Iesus which had the Spanishe tongue & required to be satisfied wth any

*A vice
Roy false
of his
woorde.*

last voyadge.

19

any such thing were or not, which
seing the Vice Roie that the trea- *The tre-
son brake
forthe.*
son must be discovered, fourth with
stayd our master, blew the trom-
pete, and of all sides set vppon vs,
oure men whiche warded a shoze
beinge stricken with soden feare,
gaue place, fled, and soughte to re- *Sodden
Feare.*
couer succour of the shippes, the
Spainyardes beyng befoze pro-
vided for the purpose landed in all
places in multitudes from theyr
shippes which they might easelye
doe withoute botes, and slewe all
our men a shoze without mercye,
a fewe of them escaped aborde
þ Jesus. The greateshippe which
had by estimacion 300 men placed
in hyr secretlye, immediatlye fell a- *The Mi-
nion esca-
ped hard-
lye.*
boorde þ minion which by Gods a-
pointment in the time of the suspi-
cion we had, which was onely one
halfe houre, the Minion was made
readye to aboyde and so leeing

B.iii.

hyr

M ,Iohn Haukins

by: hede fastes, and haylinge awaye
by the stearne fastes she was got-
ten out, thus with Gods helpe she
defended the violence of the firste
hunte of these. CCC. men. The
Wynion being paste oute they ca-
me aborde the Iesus, whiche also
with very muche ado and the losse
of manye of our men were de-
fended and kepte oute. Then was
there also ij. other shippes that as-
saulted the Iesus at the same in-
stant, so that she had hard getting
loose, but yet with some tyme we
had cutt our hede fastes and got-
ten out by the stearne fastes. Now
when the Iesus and the Wynion
were gotten aborde two shippes
length from the Spainishe fleet,
the fighte began hott of all sydes
that with in one houre þe Admirall
of the Spainyardes was supposed
to be soncke, their vice Admirall
burned and one other of there prin-
cipall

*The Je-
sus esca-
ped hard-
lye.*

*Sharp
warres.*

*3. ships of
the Spain
yardes co-
sumed.*

last voyadge.

all shippes supposed to be soncke,
ke, so that the shippes were ly-
tell able to anoye vs. Then is it
to be vnderstande that all the ordi-
nance vppon the Islande was in
the Spainyardes handes, whiche
did vs so greate anoyance, that it
cutt all the mastes and yeades of
the Iesus, in suche sorte that there *A hard*
was no hope to cary hyz awate: al- *case.*
so yt soncke oure smalle shippes,
wher vpon we determined to pla-
ce y^e Iesus on that side of the Wy-
nion that she mighte abide all the
batterie from the land, and so be a
defence for the Wynion till nighte,
and then to take suche reuise of vic-
tuall and other necessaries from
the Iesus as the tyme woulde suf-
fer vs, and so to leue hyz: as we
were thus determininge and had
placed the Wynion from the shore
of the lande soddenlye the Spain-
yardes had fired two greate ship-
pes

B.iiij.

M. Iohn Haukins

Fyere.

*Small hope to bee
had of ty-
rantes.*

pes which weare comming direct-
lye with vs, and hauinge no mea-
nes to auoide the fire, it breded a-
mong our men a meruelous fear,
so that some sayde, lett vs departe
with the Minion, other said let vs
see where the winde will carie the
fire from vs, but to be shorte the
Minions men which had alwayes
there sayles in a readines thought
to make suer woork and so with-
out either consent of the Captaine
or master cutte their saile, so that
verie hardly I was receaued into
the Minion. The moste part of the
men that were lefte a lyue in the
Jesus made shift and followed the
Minion in a small bote: the reste
whiche the lytell bote was not a-
ble to receaue, were inforced to a-
bide the mercy of the Spaiyardes
(whych I doughte was verie ly-
tell) so wyth the Minion onelye
and the Judith (a small barke of
50. tonne

7
last voyadge.

50. tonne) we escaped which bathe
the same nighte forsoke vs in oure
greate miserie, we were nowe re-
moued wyth the Wynion from the
Spanyshe shippes two bowe sho-
tes & there rode all that night: the
next morning we recouered an Is-
land a myle from the Spainyards
where there toke vs a north wind
and being lefte onely with .ii. An-
cres and .ii. cables (for in this con-
flicte we lost .iiij. cables and .ii. an-
cres) we thoughte alwayes vppon
deathe whiche euer was present,
but God preserued vs to a longer
tyme. The weather waxed reaso-
nable and þ satterday we set saile
and hauing a great number of me
and lytell victuals our hope of life
waxed lesse & lesse: some desired to
yelde to þ Spaniards, some rather
desyred to obtaine a place where
thei might geue theselues to þ Infi-
dels, & some had rather abide w a

A storme

*Small hope
of lyffe.*

*Harde
choyse.*

B. b.

lytell pit-

M. Iohn Haukins

myserie. pittance the mercie of God at sea,
so this with manie sorrowfull har-
tes we wādzed in a vnknowne sea
by the space of xliij. dayes, till hon-
ger inforced vs to seke the land, for
bides weare thoughte verie good
October. meate, rats, cattes, mife and dog-
ges none escaped that mighte bee
gotten, parrates and monkayes þ
were had in great pris, were thou-
gbte ther verie proffitabie if they
serued the tourne one dinner: this
1568. in the ende the viij. daye of Octo-
ber we came to the lande in the bo-
tom of the same baye of Mexico in
xxxiij. degres: wher we hoped to
haue founde inhabitantes of the
Mannye Spainyardes, relife of victuales,
series. and place for þ repaire of our ship-
pes, which was so soze beten with
shoot from oure ennemies & bru-
sed with shotinge of our owne or-
dinance, that oure wery and weake
armes were scare able to defende
and

last voyadge.

and kepe oute the water. But all thinges happened to the contrarie for we founde neither people, victuall nor haven of reliefe, but a place wher hauing sayde wether with some perill we might land a bote, oure people being forced with hunger desired to bee sett a land, wher vnto I concluded. And suche as were willinge to land I put them aparte, and such as were desirous to go homewards I put aparte, so that they were indifferently parted 100. of one side & 100. of the other side these 100. men we sett a land with all diligence in this lytell place befoze sayde, which beinge landed we determined there to refresh our water and so with our litell remayne of victualles to take þ sea. The next daie hauing a land with me 1. of our C. men that remayned for the speedier preparinge of our water aboꝝde, there a rose
an

M. Iohn Haukins

The grea-
est misfe-
re of all.

An extreme storme so þ in iij. dayes
we coulde by no meanes repayre
oure shippes: the shippe also was
in suche peryll that euery hour we
loked for shipwarke.

he goulfe
of Bahama-
s.

November.

¶ But yet God againe had mercie
on vs, sent fayre wether, had aboꝝ
de oure water, and departed the
.xvi. daye of October, after whiche
daye we had faire and prosperous
wether tyll the .xvi. daye of Octo-
ber, which daie God be praised we
weare cleare from the coaste of the
Indians and out of the chanell and
goulfe of Bahana which is betwe-
ne the Cape of floꝝyda and the I-
landes of Cuba. After this going
neare to the coulde Countre, oure
men being oppressed with famine
died continually, & they þ were left,
grewe into such weaknes that we
were scantlye able to manure oure
ship, & the winde being alwaies yll
for vs to recouer Englañd, determin-
ed

last voyadge.

ned to go with Galicia, in Spaine,
with intēt there to relieue our cōpa-
ny & other extreme wants. And be-
inge arriued þ last date of Decēber *Decēber.*
in a place neare vnto Vigo called
Pōtefedra, our men with excesse of
freshe meate grewe into miserable
disseases, and died a great parte of
them. This matter was bozne out
as long as it mighte be, but in the
ende although there was none of
our men suffered to go a land, yet
by accesse of the spainyardes, our
feblenes was knowen to thē. wher
vpon they ceased not to seke by all
meanes to betraie vs, but with all
spede possible we departed to Vi-
go, wher we had some helpe of ser-
taine English ships & xij. fresh mē
wherwith we repayzed our wants
as we might, & departed the xx. day
of Iāuarī 1568. arriued in Mounts
baye in Cozhe wale þ xxv. of the sa- *Iannari*
me month praised be god therfoze.

¶ At

M. Iohn Haukins

¶ If all the miseries and troubles
some assayes of this sorowefull
boyadge shoulde be perfecttlye and
throughlye written, there shoulde
nede a paynfull man with his pen-
ne, and as greate a tyme as he
had that wrote the liues
and deathes of the
martyrs.

FINIS.

Iohn Haukins.



